

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1     --1. (Amended) A method of reducing the number of the number of attributes and respective values  
2     of a sample population employed in generating a predictive model, said method comprising the steps  
3     of:  
4                 obtaining one or more desired attributes and respective values;  
5                 comparing said one or more desired attributes and respective values with said sample  
6     population to obtain a target population;  
7                 determining a statistical measure of difference between each of the attributes and respective  
8     values of said target population and the attributes and respective values of the sample population;  
9     and  
10               utilizing said statistical measure of difference to reduce the number of attributes and  
11     respective values of said sample population.--

Please cancel Claim 2.

- 1     --3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining a statistical measure of  
2     difference further comprises:  
3                 determining an entropy for the attribute values.--  
  
1     --4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of utilizing said statistical measure to  
2     reduce the number of attributes and respective values of said population further comprises:  
3                 identifying n attributes having a largest difference in respective values with said target  
4     population.--  
  
1     --5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of utilizing said statistical measure to  
2     reduce the number of attributes and respective values of said population further comprises:

3 identifying a predetermined percentage of attributes and respective values having a larger  
4 statistical measure of difference than remaining attributes and respective values.--

*cont.*

*AB* 6. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of utilizing said statistical measure to  
2 reduce the number of attributes and respective values of said population further comprises:

*AB* 3 identifying attributes and respective values where said statistical measure of difference  
4 exceeds a predetermined amount.--

Please cancel Claim 7.

Please cancel Claim 8.

Please cancel Claim 9.

Please cancel Claim 10.

Please cancel Claim 11.

Please cancel Claim 12.

1 --13. (Amended) A method of selecting attributes for computing a model, comprising:

2 for a plurality of samples each having values for a plurality of attributes:

3 for each of the plurality of attributes:

*AB* 4 comparing the attribute values for a target group of samples to the attribute  
5 values for all of the plurality of samples; and

6 determining a difference between the attribute values for the target groups and  
7 the attribute values for all of the plurality of samples; and

8 identifying attributes within the plurality of attributes having a largest  
9 difference between the attribute values for the target groups and the attribute values  
10 for all of the plurality of samples; and  
11 selecting at least some of the identified attributes.--

*14. (Amended)* A system for selecting attributes for computing a model, comprising:

*a memory containing data for a plurality of samples each having values for a plurality of attributes; and*

*a processor coupled to the memory and executing a selection process including:*

*comparing attribute values for samples having a desired attribute value to attribute values for all samples;*

*selecting a subset of available attributes based on a difference between attribute values for the samples having the desired attribute value and attribute values for all of the samples; and*

*employing the selected subset of attributes to generate a predictive model.--*

1 15. (Unchanged) The system of claim 14, wherein the selection process determines a statistical  
2 measure of difference between the attribute values for samples having the desired attribute and the  
3 attribute values for all of the samples.

1 16. (Unchanged) The system of claim 15, wherein the selection process determines an entropy for  
2 the attribute values.

1 17. (Unchanged) The system of claim 14, wherein the selection process identifies a predetermined  
2 number of attributes having a largest difference in the attribute values for selection.

1 18. (Unchanged) The system of claim 14, wherein the selection process identifies a predetermined  
2 percentage of attributes having a larger difference in the attribute values for selection.

1       19. (Unchanged) The system of claim 14, wherein the selection process identifies, for selection,  
2       attributes having a difference in the attribute values exceeding a predetermined amount.

1       --20. (Amended) A system for computing a model, comprising:  
2              a memory containing data for a plurality of samples each having values for a plurality of  
3              attributes; and  
4              a processor coupled to the memory and executing a selection process including:  
5                  comparing attribute values for a target subset of the plurality of samples to attribute  
6                  values for all of the samples;  
7                  selecting attributes having a largest difference between attribute values for the target  
8                  subset and attribute values for all of the samples; and  
9                  computing a model employing the selected attributes.--  
  
*AM*

1       --21. (Amended) A computer usable medium for selecting attributes for computing a model, said  
2       computer usable medium comprising:  
3              computer program code for reading values of attributes for a plurality of samples;  
4              computer program code for comparing attribute values for samples having a desired attribute  
5              value to attribute values for all samples; and  
6              computer program code for selecting a subset of available attributes based on a difference  
7              between attribute values for samples having the desired attribute value and attribute values for all  
8              samples.--

1       --22. (Amended) The computer usable medium of claim 21, wherein the instructions for comparing  
2       attribute values for samples having a desired attribute value to attribute values for all samples further  
3       comprise:  
4              computer program code for determining a statistical measure of difference between the  
5              attribute values for samples having the desired attribute value and the attribute values for all  
6              samples.--

1       --23. (Amended) The computer usable medium of claim 22, wherein the instructions for determining  
2       a statistical measure of difference between the attribute values for samples having the desired  
3       attribute value and the attribute values for all samples further comprise:  
4

5              computer program code for determining an entropy of the attribute values for samples having  
6       the desired attribute value and an entropy of the attribute values for all samples;

7              computer program code for comparing the entropy of the attribute values for samples having  
8       the desired attribute value to the entropy of the attribute values for all samples for each attribute to  
determine a relative measure of difference; and

9              computer program code for comparing the relative measure of difference of all attributes.--  
*AT*

1       --24. (Amended) The computer usable medium of claim 21, wherein the instructions for selecting  
2       a subset of available attributes based on a difference between attribute values for samples having the  
3       desired attribute value and attribute values for all samples further comprise:  
4

5              computer program code for identifying n attributes having a largest difference in the attribute  
values.--  
*SG*

1       --25. (Amended) A computer usable medium for selecting attributes for computing a model, said  
2       computer usable medium comprising:

3              computer program code for comparing attribute values for a target group of samples to  
4       attribute values for all samples for each of a plurality of attributes;

5              computer program code for determining a difference between the attribute values for the  
6       target group of samples and the attribute values for all of the samples; and

7              computer program code for selecting a group of attributes having a largest difference between  
8       the attribute values for the target group of samples and the attribute values for all samples...  

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